

**Claims**

What is claimed is:

- 1           1.       An information processing system, comprising:  
2       a first computing device for:  
3           selectively initiating execution of a software application by one of:  
4           the first computing device if a state of at least one of the first computing device and a  
5       second computing device is a first state; and  
6           the second computing device if the state is a second state, the software application being  
7       associable with one or more software objects.
- 1           2.       The system of Claim 1 wherein the software application is a socket application.
- 1           3.       The system of Claim 1 wherein the state is a synchronized state of at least the first  
2       and second computing devices.
- 1           4.       The system of Claim 1 wherein the state includes information for identifying a  
2       group of software applications executed by the first and second computing devices.
- 1           5.       The system of Claim 1 wherein the state indicates whether the software application  
2       has an associated listening socket.
- 1           6.       The system of Claim 1 wherein the software application is a first software  
2       application, and wherein the first computing device is for:  
3           in response to execution of the first software application and the state, selectively  
4       initiating execution of a second software application by the second computing device.

1           7.     An information processing system, comprising:  
2     a first computing device for:  
3         executing a software application that is associated with at least one software object; and  
4         in response to a request for initiating execution of the software object, independent of the  
5     software application, selectively initiating execution of the software object by one of:  
6         the first computing device if a state of at least one of the first computing device and a  
7     second computing device is a first state; and  
8         the second computing device if the state is a second state.

1           8.     The system of Claim 7 wherein the software application is a socket application.

1           9.     The system of Claim 7 wherein the state is a synchronized state of at least the first  
2     and second computing devices.

1           10.    The system of Claim 7 wherein the first computing device is for coordinating a  
2     communication of information between the software application and the software object, even if  
3     the software object is executed by the second computing device.

1           11.    A method performed by a first computing device of an information processing  
2 system, the method comprising:  
3           selectively initiating execution of a software application by one of:  
4           the first computing device if a state of at least one of the first computing device and a  
5 second computing device is a first state; and  
6           the second computing device if the state is a second state, the software application being  
7 associable with one or more software objects.

1           12.    The method of Claim 11 wherein the software application is a socket application.

1           13.    The method of Claim 11 wherein the state is a synchronized state of at least the  
2 first and second computing devices.

1           14.    The method of Claim 11 wherein the state includes information for identifying a  
2 group of software applications executed by the first and second computing devices.

1           15.    The method of Claim 11 wherein the state indicates whether the software  
2 application has an associated listening socket.

1           16.    The method of Claim 11 wherein the software application is a first software  
2 application, and wherein the method comprises:  
3           in response to execution of the first software application and the state, selectively  
4 initiating execution of a second software application by the second computing device.

1           17.     A method performed by a first computing device of an information processing  
2 system, the method comprising:  
3           executing a software application that is associated with at least one software object; and  
4           in response to a request for initiating execution of the software object, independent of the  
5 software application, selectively initiating execution of the software object by one of:  
6           the first computing device if a state of at least one of the first computing device and a  
7 second computing device is a first state; and  
8           the second computing device if the state is a second state.

1           18.     The method of Claim 17 wherein the software application is a socket application.

1           19.     The method of Claim 17 wherein the state is a synchronized state of at least the  
2 first and second computing devices.

1           20.     The method of Claim 17 wherein the method comprises:  
2           coordinating a communication of information between the software application and the  
3 software object, even if the software object is executed by the second computing device.